PRAYER

Fajr	5.25
Zuhar	12.15
Asr	4.15
Maghreb	5.49
Isha	7.05

Starting time in Karachi

REFLECTIONS

"PIETY IS THE BEST WEAPON OF DEFENCE."

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

78AH427

Women are turning banal aspects of life into new business ventures

By Fatima S Attarwala

KARACHI: Diaper changes, child allergies and closets overflowing with nothing to wear — these are conversations of everyday life for countless women. They rarely make it into boardrooms or startup pitch decks.

Yet the Women in Tech event, funded by Standard Chartered, acknowledged these realities, which became the basis of new business ventures.

Starting with 86 applications in 2019, Women in Tech has now grown to 1,900 applications from over 100 cities across Pakistan. From these, 10 startups were selected for seed grants worth Rs1 million each, along with a two-month mentorship programme through INNOVentures Global.

The top three winners this year were baby food brand Yumkins Foods by Hira Mubeen; Atfaal by Erum Sheheryar, which upcycles textile waste into kidswear; and Ootein by Maria Ameer, Pakistan's first certified allergen-free food brand inspired by the founder's own struggle with celiac disease.

The winners received scale-up grants of Rs5m, Rs3.5m, and Rs2m respectively, at an event held on Thursday.

The shortlisted 10 startups collectively generated close to Rs25m in verified revenue within two months. If they maintain this trajectory, these ventures are projected to deliver 3.3x annualised growth, reaching a total of Rs150m in revenue over the next year.

While that may seem like pocket change to the corporate sector, it's important to remember that many of these ventures began at home with a woman simply solving a problem in her daily life.

Take, for example, the need to work from home. Childcare and household management are realities for most working mothers. And even with supportive environments, many corporations fall short.

Digital Superwomen's founders realised that there is more scope in freelancing than in the corporate sector. The venture aims to address this by offering short online courses that can be managed with kids and provide basic skills that allow women to work from home and apply for jobs.

Another example is Lahore-based AZCode, a coworking space with a roughly 60 per cent female user base.

"Pakistan has one of the lowest rates of female workforce participation in the world. Women face unsafe workspaces, limited flexibility, and cultures that often silence their potential. Co-working spaces exist, but most offer only infrastructure — not inclusion," says co-founder Asra Ameen.

"The more women are involved, the greater the multiplier impact," said Nida Athar, CEO of INNOVentures.

Across these 10 startups, over 80pc of the teams are women, and more than 1,200 women have been engaged as suppliers, customers, and partners, she said.

From 2015 to 2021, local startups collectively raised $563m across 225 deals, but women-founded startups received only 1.4pc of that total, said Raeda Latif, country head of corporate affairs, brand and marketing at Standard Chartered.

"Since then, things have improved — women-led startups now represent roughly 10pc of the ecosystem," she said.

As the principal country officer of the International Finance Corporation, Naz Khan pointed out that women's entrepreneurship should not be treated as a side story; it should be seen as a driver of economic growth.

Studies have shown that 90pc of the income earned by women is reinvested into their families and communities, shaping generations to come.

Some areas identified as needing improvement among women-led businesses included digital bookkeeping, using analytics to track returns on spending, and developing the discipline to record every rupee.

The Conference of Birds enthrals audience

By Peerzada Salman

KARACHI: The 12th century poet Fariduddin Attar's allegorical work *Manteq al-Tayer* (conference of birds) is about the quest of the birds for a mythical figure. The species is to do with flight and being airborne, therefore there is no surprise in the fact that a dance group Anikaya chose to name their act *The Conference of Birds* which was performed as part of the ongoing World Culture Festival (WCF) on Friday evening. It entertained, enthralled and inspired the audience in equal measure.

Anikaya is a group founded by Wendy Jehlen which believes there are no boundaries when it comes to people and culture. Their performance highlighted this inclusive approach to life and art. The performance on Friday was a unique interpretation of the epic poem where the dancers applied contemporary tales of displacement and alienation to the main idea of the 12th century poem.

Jehlen directed and choreographed the performance in which artists representing half a dozen nationalities took part. Their movements to the beat of the music set for the act and their gestures were totally in sync with the thematic thread of the stories they were telling. The ambient lighting and somber music were not there merely to embellish the play; they were used as characters just as the artists (boys and girls) who danced as veritable narrators of the conference of birds.

Film screening

The eighth day of the festival also featured the screening of the Pakistani film *Chikkar*, which revolves around themes of environmental and class struggle in rural Pakistan.

During a post-screening discussion moderated by Umair Ahmed Khan, director Syed Zaheeruddin and actor Usman Mukhtar shared insights into the film.

"We tried to merge documentary and fiction in this project. *Chikkar* was a serious film, yet audiences laughed, so imagine what will happen when we make a comedy. We must overcome our fear of experimentation," said Zaheeruddin.

Usman Mukhtar added, "It will take time for such messages to spread, but more films like *Chikkar* should be made. These are issues our society needs to address."

Art workshop titled *Men with the Pen* featuring Comorian painter Yaz and Tanveer Farooqi was also held.

The artists taught students various painting techniques. Yaz also painted a portrait of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, which became a highlight of the day.

Demolition drive victims continue protest outside Supreme Court Registry

Affectees demand rental payments, housing compensation promised to them

By Waqas Ali Ranjha

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MEDICAM

REPRESENTATIVES of displaced families stage a protest outside SC Karachi Registry.—Dawn

KARACHI: The displaced residents of Gujjar, Orangi and Mehmoodabad Nullahs staged a protest outside the Karachi Registry of the Supreme Court on Friday to demand the rental payments and housing compensation promised to them after their homes were demolished more than four years ago.

The demonstrators have been protesting for the fourth consecutive day from the platform of the civil society group called Karachi Bachao Tehreek (KBT).

The KBT said that around 9,000 homes were demolished in the said year near the Gujjar, Orangi and Mehmoodabad Nullahs, leaving more than 50,000 people homeless. But despite court rulings in favour of compensation and resettlement, "official delays and corruption have obstructed relief," it maintained.

It said that the affected families have not received rent since Dec 2023. The Sindh government has "deliberately" delayed payments and housing allotments, leaving thousands without shelter. The KBT described the situation as a "long-drawn-out miscarriage of justice," and demanded that the Supreme Court take immediate notice of the government's negligence and corruption.

It said that thousands of homes were razed to build 25-foot-wide roads not included in Karachi's Master Plan. "All this benefited a few construction companies while the poor were left homeless," the statement added.

Over2,000 verified complaints by affected residents remain unresolved, the statement said, adding that "many families claim that government officials and intermediaries demanded bribes to release rent or construction funds, and that no investigation into these allegations has been completed."

The KBT criticised the Sindh government and PPP leadership for "celebrating election victories abroad" while Karachi's working-class citizens continue to suffer.

"Instead of celebrating, they should answer why the affectees are still waiting for the roofs promised to them," the group said.

Families at the protest site described their hardships: old men on crutches, women who lost their husbands, and children missing school to demand shelter.

Furthermore, criticising former Chief Justice of Pakistan Gulzar Ahmed's verdict that allowed the demolitions along Gujjar, Orangi and Mehmoodabad Nullahs to proceed, the KBT termed it an "anti-working class" decision.

The group said that a tribunal and the high court had earlier declared the residents' leases valid and ordered a halt to demolitions, but Justice Gulzar, during court vacations, overturned those decisions without reviewing the presented documents.

It questioned why, if all leases in Karachi were invalid as the then CJP claimed, no action was taken against officials of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, Karachi Development Authority, Sindh Katchi Abadi Authority and the city district government whose own leases existed in the same areas.

The KBT urged the Supreme Court to enforce its previous orders that guaranteed each displaced family an 80-sq-yard plot and construction funds.

It called for the immediate release of rent arrears and housing compensation, transparent registration of all pending complaints, and the appointment of an independent monitoring committee that includes civil society and representatives of the affected communities.

It warned that if their demands are not met, the protest will escalate to sit-ins and street demonstrations.

Water tanker runs over, kills motorcyclist

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A fast-moving water tanker ran over and killed a motorcyclist on main Hub River Road on Friday evening, police said.

South DIG Syed Asad Raza said that the water tanker hit the bike-rider near Jamia Farooqia within the remit of the Moachko police station.

The victim sustained critical injuries and was taken to the Dr Ruth Pfau Civil Hospital Karachi where doctors pronounced him dead on arrival. The deceased's identity could not be ascertained till late in the night.

The driver responsible for the fatal accident managed to escape from the scene, leaving behind the heavy vehicle that was impounded by the police.

Human skeleton found

A human skeleton was found in the Safoora Goth area on Friday evening.

The Malir Cantonment police said that the skeleton was recovered during excavation work being carried out for the Bus Rapid Transit Red Line near Check Post-6.

The skeleton appeared to be around 14 or 16 months old, the officials shared and said that it was shifted to the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre for medico-legal formalities.

Sindh reports 1,124 new dengue cases in 24 hours

KARACHI: The Sindh Health Department on Friday reported 1,124 new dengue cases across the province during the past 24 hours.

According to the department's daily update, 5,393 dengue tests were conducted province-wide, of which 4,001 were from the Karachi Division and 1,392 from Hyderabad. Karachi recorded 589 new cases, while Hyderabad confirmed 535.

Sindh Health Secretary Rehan Baloch said 212 new dengue patients were admitted to hospitals during the past 24 hours, 111 in government facilities and 101 in private hospitals. During the same period, 196 patients recovered and were discharged.

No dengue-related fatalities were reported. Currently, 449 dengue patients remain under treatment, 244 in government hospitals and 205 in private facilities.

Across the province, 987 beds have been allocated for dengue patients in government hospitals and 474 in private healthcare facilities. The health department is receiving case data from 52 laboratories, including 34 in Karachi and 18 in Hyderabad.

Officials urged the public to take preventive measures and promptly seek medical attention in case of dengue symptoms. —APP

Significance of October Socialist Revolution highlighted

Dawn Report

KARACHI: A seminar, "The Impact of Revolutionary Successes and Failures on Today's Situation and Social Evolution," was organised by the National Trade Union Federation Pakistan (NTUF) to mark the 108th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution here on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, progressive writer and Dean of Social Sciences at Szabist University Dr Riaz Ahmed Shaikh said that the October Socialist Revolution in Russia was not achieved in a single day; humanity struggled for thousands of years—from liberation from slavery, to the French Revolution, to the sacrifices of the Chicago workers—all forming a historic continuity.

Before and during the Revolution, literature emerged that awakened political and social consciousness among people. The revolution brought profound economic, social, and cultural transformations not only in Russia but across the world, he added.

Commenting on current global conditions, he said that imperialism had plunged the world into new contradictions.

In the concluding session, NTUF General Secretary Nasir Mansoor said that the October Revolution proved in human history that workers, too, can lead society. He thanked the participants and stated that such programmes aim to create awareness among people.

Judge rejects

Continued from Page 13

belatedly on 18.03.2025 at 21:30 hours — almost six days after the incident. This inordinate and unexplained delay strongly indicates an attempt to conceal the true circumstances, alter the timeline, and manipulate the sequence of events surrounding Sikander's illegal detention and custodial death. Such delay is wholly inconsistent with transparency and raises serious doubt regarding the bona fides of police action," the court observed.

The court noted that the police claimed that Sikander was brought to the police station by the private persons in an already injured and critical condition.

"The deceased was detained from 06:30 hours on 13.03.2025 until 15:18 hours on 13.03.2025, when he was finally shifted to Civil Hospital Karachi in a gasping condition. He was declared dead at 15:30 hours. This amounts to 07 hours of unlawful confinement without medical treatment. If he was indeed critical upon arrival, the failure to transfer him to a hospital immediately reflects culpable negligence and intentional disregard for human life," the court observed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A notice is hereby given to all that our client **M/S IMGS PAKISTAN (PRIVATE) LIMITED,** a private limited company incorporated under the laws of Islamic Republic of Pakistan holding CUIN 0088039 with its registered office address at Suit No. 606, 6th Floor, Progressive Plaza, Beaumont Road, Civil Line, Karachi, has contracted to purchase / applied for transfer of all that property bearing Plot No. SP-06, measuring 9.5 Acres out of 20 acres warehouse plot situated at South Western Zone, Port Qasim Authority, Karachi, from **M/S SPEEDY TRACK CONTAINER TERMINAL,** a partnership firm duly registered under the laws of Islamic Republic of Pakistan holding registration number 2013-14/0648 with its registered office at 924/2, Gul-e-Rehmat Building, Opp. Sabil Masjid, 18, Clayton Road, Karachi, Pakistan through its duly authorized partner, Mr. Hafiz Junaid Ismail, free from all mortgages, charges, encumbrances, claims or objections whatsoever and together with marketable title with complete vacant physical possession.

Any person, company, authority, bank, or financial institution having any claim, right, title, interest, lien or objection, whatsoever in respect of the sale and transfer of the Said Property should notify to the Directors (IM) Port Qasim Authority Karachi as well as to us at the address given below in writing along with documentary evidence, under a Regd. A/D cover within 15 (fifteen) days from the date publication of this notice failing which any claim or objection if any, shall be deemed to have been waived and the transfer the said property shall be completed.

SMMS LEGAL

BARRISTERS / ADVOCATES / CORPORATE COUNSEL

Building No. 10-C-C, Main Saba Avenue, Bukhari Commercial Area, Phase VI, DHA, Karachi. Tel: 021-38883008 & 021-38883009

Email: contact@smmslegal.com, Website: www.smmslegal.com

(BEFORE SPECIAL JUDGE), SPECIAL JUDGE, ANTI-TERRORISM COURT, KASHMORE AT KANDHKOT

Special Case No. 121 of 2023

The State

Versus

Zahid Sabzoi & Others.....Accused

FIR NO: 125 of 2023.

U/S: 324, 353, 440, 337 F(iii), 148, 149 PPC & 6/7 ATA

P.S: B-Section, Kandhkot

Whereas, the surety namely 01. Fida Hussain S/o Qaloo Khan, having CNIC No.43503-054083-1, R/o Village Nabi Bux, Dadhar P.O Kandhkot, Taluka Kandhkot. has shown as absconder in above cited case. As whereas non-bailable warrants has been issued by this court for the arrest of above named surety, which returned un-executed, with report of police that the surety person has absconded away and he is not traceable.

Therefore, proclamation u/s 87 Cr.P.C read with section 19(10) of Anti-Terrorism Act 1997 be issued with directions to the above named surety person to appear before this court at (Sub-Ordinate Court Building Kashmore at Kandhkot) within seven days after publication of this notice, failing which the case will be proceeded in their absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court,

This 30th Day of October, 2025.

I/C SPECIAL JUDGE,
ANTI-TERRORISM COURT
KASHMORE AT KANDHKOT

iWORK FOR SINDH www.iwork4sindh.com JOB PORTAL BY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

INF/KRY/3670/25

OFFICE OF THE SR: SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE THATTA

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No.HPA 19902-11-2025 Dated: 4-11-2025

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the interested contractors/companies for the following works under SPPRA Rules 2010 (amended 2018).

S. No	Name of Article	Estd.Cost in millions	Earnest Money	Tender Fee	Time for Completion
.1.	Repair/Renovation of **Model Police Station Gharo Part I**	10.00 (M)	5%	3,000/-	90 Days
.2.	Repair/Renovation of **Model Police Station Gharo Part II**	10.00 (M)	5%	3,000/-	90 Days

The blank tender forms will be issued from the date of publication. The tenders duly filled shall receive back till **03.12.2025 3:00 P.M** & opened on same day at **3:30pm** presence of all interested bidders who wish to attend & procurement committees.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Blank tenders will be issued to the agencies / Firms on the payment of tender fee (nonrefundable).
2. Conditional / blank, Incomplete and not accompanied with call deposit will not be considered.
3. If the competent authority remains out of Head Quarter on the date of opening of the tenders, if any holiday announced by Government, then tenders will be received & opened on the next working day on same schedule & place.
4. Agencies/Firms should be registered with Sindh Revenue Board and Income Tax authorities.
5. The agency/contractor should have completed at least 03 Nos works of similar nature in last here years.
6. Bank statement / Audit report / other documents of the last three years showing annual financial turnover amounting to **Rs.2 (M)** per year.
7. The intending participants must be registered with PEC, for the year **2025-26** limit relevant category.
8. The competent authority reserved the right to reject any or all tenders according SPPRA Rules 2010 (Amended 2019)
9. The intending contractors should submit the Affidavit to affect the whether he is not involved in any litigation and not abandoned the work in any Government Department and not black listed.
10. Separate proposal be submitted for each category above.

NOTE: This NIT can be seen on **SPPRA** website at **www.pprasindh.gov.pk** & Sindh Police website **www.sindhpolice.gov.pk**

INFORMATION & PROCEDURE

*Complete set of bidding documents containing the scope of work and relevant detail along with specification can be obtained by the Interested Contractors/Contracting Firms To **Mr. Khamiso Lund Rank Accountant SSP Office Thatta, Cell No. 03124151036** during working hours. Method of Procurement will be single stage one envelop Procedure.*

(FAROOQUE AHMED BIJARANI) PSP
SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE THATTA
& Chairman Procurement Committee

INF-KRY_3677/25
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